

## ‘The Next Attack’

Five years later, the Bushes cannot assure Americans that they are safer than they were before the bloody September. The much publicised war on terror has become global since 9/11. So, too, has the terror campaign. And the continuing Iraq war which has international ramifications, cannot make anybody safer in any part of the globe. Some third world countries being the limitless suppliers of religious fanatics who are too willing to die as martyrs for a modern-day crusade, are vulnerable to American pressure because of the ‘terror card’. In the name of co-operation and sharing intelligence input about ‘terrorists’ the almighty CIA has virtually penetrated the administrative setups of a number of Asian countries including India and Pakistan, undermining their sovereignty and national self-respect. Pakistan is a classic example of how the CIA manages internal security of America’s most trusted client state in South Asia. The London police had recently been able to foil a grand plan to blow up a dozen America-bound planes in the mid-air because of an arrest of a ‘jihadist’ in Pakistan. The CIA relies heavily on third world liaison relationships to continue Bush’s unholy war on terror. But America and its foot-soldiers in the war on terror could not imagine the scale of what they now face. Meanwhile, terrorism has become an excuse for the CIA to intervene in any country. But the CIA has stretched itself beyond the limit of its capacity to dominate the world. And in most cases CIA operatives can at best speculate about the ‘Next Attack’ compounding terror problems, instead of easing them.

Nearer home one may find a similar ring in the official exercise of combating ‘naxalite terror’. Not a day passes without the security authorities issuing colourful statements about their grandiose plan to confront ‘naxalism’, only to admit later how they failed to address the real problem—the root cause of naxalite violence. Last month in a bid to strengthen anti-naxalite measures the Centre convened a special meeting of high-ranking police officials of naxalite-affected states. There was nothing new in it. They too talked about the next naxalite (or Maoist) attack to create panic among people and spread all kinds of misinformation in respect of the 40-year-old naxalite movement. The implied objective of such high-level security parleys was to increase police and paramilitary budget even if there was no serious threat from the naxalites. All their tall talks about tackling the naxalite problem by way of minimising social and economic inequality were sham.

Those who have nowhere else to go are in reality under the sway of naxalites or maoists. And they are tribals—the worst victims of globalisation. In the nation-building process they were left behind in the yester years and today they are equally in a hopeless situation despite so many constitutional safe-guards. Their wretchedness defies description. Mainly because they are being systematically denied their traditional occupations and evicted from their ancestral land. Tribal land alienation began during the British administration but in those days local feudals were in the main responsible for the crisis. Today it is the government-pampered industry which is again dominated by ruthless and anti-national, if not incompetent, monopoly houses.

The inconvenient truth is that the persons in authority have, for all practical purposes, locked the future of millions of tribals, while creating a creamy layer among them. Those who have been left out find an escape route in naxalism or what they call naxalite terror.

To talk about social and economic justice to curb naxalism or naxalite terror is meaningless, and worse because injustice is precisely on their agenda. Yet they talk

relentlessly about 'democracy for all', 'social justice' for all, equal political space for all, reserving their rights to do the opposite in the field. In a way the authorities are radicalising the tribal world by aggressively pursuing globalisation to swell the ranks of the destitutes. And in this desperate situation they have no option but to speculate about the next attack.

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